

CLMPTO 10/18/04 JW

Amend Claims 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
11,12,13,15,16,17,

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- (Currently Standard) Aggregates for direct bridging between a single **switch** and a single **switch** or **bridge** in the **switch fabric** through a **switch** interface, consisting:

 - an interface assigned to an **ATM** link for transferring **ATM** cells to **switch** **ports**, and receiving **ATM** cells from the **ATM** **backbone** **network**, and assigned the **aggregate** to at least one **serial link** for transferring **PCM** data in **PCM** **data** **frames**, and receiving **PCM** **data** **frames**, a **table** of the **ATM** **switch**, the **interface** connecting the **PCM** **data** to **ATM** with a **data** **format** of the **backbone** **protocol** and vice versa; and
 - the **interface** being **bridge** assigned to establish a **switch** **port** of the **ATM** **switch** as that a **composting** **module** of the **ATM** **switch** is enabled to **communicate** with the **interface** using a **protocol** native to the **composting** **module** for **communicating** with a **switch** **port**;

which is **assigned** to receive **switched** **messages** from the **switch** **module** to provide a **switched** **link** **number**. The **interface** is **bridge** assigned to map the **switched** **link** **number** to a **connection** set as through the **backbone** **network**.
- (Currently Standard) The **aggregate** as defined in clause 3 wherein the **switch** **port** **module** enabled by the **interface** is a **digital** **switch** **controller**.
- (Currently Standard) The **aggregate** as defined in clause 4 wherein the **serial** **link** is **assigned** to **communicate** a **switch** **fabric** **interface** that receives **PCM** **data** **frames**, and transfers **PCM** **data** to a **switching** **table** of the **ATM** **switch**.
- (Currently Standard) The **aggregate** as defined in clause 5 wherein the **switch** **fabric** **interface** **module** is **assigned** to **receive** **data** **received** from the **table** of the **ATM** **switch** to **convert** **data** **to** **data** **in** **optical** **data** **for** **transfer** **over** the **serial** **link** to the **interface**.
- (Currently Standard) The **aggregate** as defined in clause 6 wherein the **interface** is **assigned** to **forward** and **receive** **messages** through the **ATM** **backbone** **network** to peer **switches** **connected** to the **ATM** **backbone** **network**, in order to **set** **up** **connections** for **ATM**

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5 wherein the interface is further configured to formulate and transmit A2DP signaling messages in order to initiate the set up and release of A2DP short channel connections in the A2DP backbone network.
7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5 wherein the TDM switch is configured adapted to view the interface as a single portfield that supports a single large port group.
8. (Currently Amended) A method of providing direct tracking between a time division multiplex (TDM) switch and an A2DP backbone network of A2DP backbone switches, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) configuring, providing an interface adapted to receive pulse code modulated (PCM) data in A2DP backbone format of the backbone network, and vice versa, so that the interface is further adapted to communicate with a portfield of the switch using a mapping process native to the switch and the interface thereby enabling to create a port field of the TDM switch; and
 - (b) connecting the interface directly to a portfield of a block interface of the TDM switch and directly to the block interface to enable direct tracking between the TDM switch and the A2DP backbone network; and
9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the interface is further configured adapted to formulate and send messages through the A2DP backbone network to port interfaces in order to set up and release calls between the TDM switch and other TDM switches connected to the A2DP backbone network.
10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the interface is further configured adapted to formulate and send A2DP signaling messages to initiate the set up or

release of AT&T virtual channel connections for the transfer of source traffic associated with the calls.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the connection is a set of connections maintained within the TDM switch as configured to view such that the TDM switch classifies the interface as a single peripheral that supports a single large trunk group.
12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the connection is a set of connections maintained within the TDM switch as configured to view such that the TDM switch classifies the interface as a collection of ports peripherals that supports a single large trunk group.
13. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for interfacing between a time division multiplexed (TDM) switch and a geographically remote switching backbone network, comprising:
 - an interface adapted for connection to an ATM link for interfacing TDM calls to remote sites, and receiving ATM calls having data from the switching backbone network, and adapted for connection to at least one serial link for transmitting voice traffic modulated (PCM) data to, and receiving PCM data from, a fabric of the TDM switch, the interface connecting the ATM data to ATM calls originating in the backbone network and vice versa;
 - the interface being further adapted to include a trunk peripheral of the TDM switch, and to communicate with peer interfaces connected to the backbone network to enable virtual channel connections for TDM calls;
 - wherein the interface is a channel interface to enable a closed switch connection, the interface is further adapted to enable trunk connection as a connection path through the backbone network.
14. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 13 wherein the interface is adapted to communicate with a competing module of the TDM switch using a protocol native to the competing module.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of providing direct switching between a first division switched (TDM) switch and a second division switched (A128) backbone network, comprising the steps of:
 - configuring said interface as an interface adapted to connect public mode switched (TDM) data to A128 data in a format of the backbone network, and vice versa, so that the interface is adapted to enable a direct connection of the TDM switch and in communication with other interfaces connected to the A128 backbone network, to enable direct channel connections for TDM calls; and
 - connecting the interface directly to a serial link of a single fabric backbone of the TDM switch to enable direct switching between the TDM switch and the A128 backbone network, whereby in response to receiving a control message from the respective switch to make a call to a selected trunk number, the interface is further adapted to map the selected trunk number to a connection on through the backbone network.
16. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the interface is adapted to enable direct channel connections for TDM calls by sending messages through the A128 backbone network to other interfaces in order to set up and release calls between the TDM switch and other TDM switches connected by other interfaces to the A128 backbone network.
17. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the interface is further configured to forward and send A128 signaling messages to an A128 switch to which the interface is connected to initiate the set up or release of A128 virtual channel connections for the transfer of voice traffic associated with the TDM calls.
18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the TDM switch is configured to view the interface as a digital trunk controller that supports a single large trunk group.